

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 019287 ACTION ALL DIPLOMATIC
POSTS 28 JANUARY.

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: MTN: TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

1. GATT DIRECTOR GENERAL LONG HAS SCHEDULED MEETING OF
TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE (TNC) TO BEGIN FEBRUARY 11.
THIS MEETING WILL LAUNCH BARGAINING STAGE OF MULTILATERAL
TRADE NEGOTIATIONS (MTN). PREPARATIONS NOW UNDERWAY WITHIN
U.S. GOVERNMENT ON COMPREHENSIVE STATEMENT THAT WILL LAY
OUT INITIAL U.S. VIEWS ON TARIFFS, NONTARIFF BARRIERS,
AGRICULTURE, SAFEGUARDS, SECTORS, TROPICAL PRODUCTS, LDCS,
AND OTHER ASPECTS OF NEGOTIATIONS.

2. DOMESTIC PROCEDURES REQUIRED BY U.S. TRADE ACT, SUCH AS
INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION ADVICE ON ECONOMIC IMPACT OF
TARIFF CUTS; REPORTS OF INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE, AND LABOR
ADVISORY GROUPS; PUBLIC HEARINGS BY OFFICE OF SPECIAL
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REPRESENTATIVE FOR TRADE NEGOTIATIONS; ETC., WILL PREVENT
TABLING OF SPECIFIC U.S. TARIFF OFFERS UNTIL FALL.
HOWEVER, SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS CAN BEGIN, IMMEDIATELY
AFTER FEBRUARY 11 TNC MEETING, LOOKING TOWARD, INTER ALIA,
DEVISING TARIFF NEGOTIATING FORMULA; ELABORATING RULES
THAT WOULD APPLY TO PARTICULAR NONTARIFF AREAS -- PRODUCT
STANDARDS, SUBSIDIES, AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, FOR
EXAMPLE; GIVING PRIORITY ATTENTION TO TROPICAL PRODUCTS;
AND INITIATING WORK ON SAFEGUARDS.

3. IMMEDIATELY AFTER FEBRUARY 11 TNC MEETING U.S. WILL
EXPAND PRESENT SKELETON MTN DELEGATION IN GENEVA TO ENABLE
ACTIVE NEGOTIATIONS IN ALL PHASES OF MTN. IT IS EXPECTED
THAT U.S. DELEGATION TO TNC MEETING WILL INCLUDE MEMBERS
OF CONGRESS AND THAT CONGRESSMEN AND THEIR STAFFS WILL
PLAY IMPORTANT SUBSEQUENT ADVISORY ROLE.

4. PLEASE ADVISE APPROPRIATE HOST COUNTRY OFFICIALS OF
IMPORTANCE THAT U.S. ATTACHES TO SUCCESSFUL FEBRUARY 11
OPENING OF BARGAINING STAGE OF NEGOTIATIONS. ALSO,
EXPRESS U.S. HOPE AND EXPECTATION THAT OTHER COUNTRIES
PARTICIPATING IN MTN WILL ADEQUATELY PREPARE FOR TNC
MEETING AND BE ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN SUBSEQUENT
NEGOTIATIONS. KISSINGER UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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